

THE FAYETTE COUNTY UNION

AND WEST UNION ARGO-GAZETTE

WEST UNION, IOWA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1963

Total of 17 Soil Conservation Practices Available to Farmers Here

by Leland A. McCord
Work Unit Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service

The basic purpose of the Agricultural Conservation program is to aid in achieving necessary conservation of our soil and water resources.

Participation in the Agricultural Conservation program is entirely voluntary, and any farmer who believes he can carry out the needed conservation work on his farm without ACP assistance is urged to do so.

We wish to emphasize that one requirement to become eligible for a cost-sharing payment is that a Form ACP-201 must be signed before the practice is started.

Following is a list of the cost-sharing practices being offered in Fayette county this year, along with the cost-share rates for performing them.

We hope you will be able to give some careful thought and study to the conservation needs of your farm and decide which ACP cost-sharing practice or practices are most needed on your farm this year. In making your decision, you should give full consideration to any conservation plan you have had developed for your farm.

COST-SHARING PRACTICES BEING OFFERED IN FAYETTE COUNTY—1963

1. Establishment of Permanent Vegetative Cover

FEDERAL COST SHARES:
(a) 50 percent of the average cost of the seed

(b) \$.045 per pound of available phosphate

(c) Limestone according to practice No. 2.

2. Limestone

FEDERAL COST SHARES
Contact ASC office in Fayette.

3. Contour Farming

FEDERAL COST SHARES
\$2.00 per acre for establishing the contour system. Removal of stone, trees and fence. 50 percent of cost.

4. Contour Stripcropping

FEDERAL COST SHARES
(a) Establishment of contour stripcropping system \$4.00 per acre

(b) Removal of hedge rows, stones or trees, and fence row removal, 50 percent of the cost.

5. Planting Trees and Shrubs

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Planting — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed \$45 per acre.

(b) Land Preparation — 80 percent of the cost not to exceed \$10 per acre.

(c) Land Clearing — 80 percent of the cost not to exceed \$15 per acre.

(d) Fence Construction — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed \$1.20 per rod woven wire or \$1.20 per rod barb wire.

6. Initial Establishment of a Stand of Trees on Farmland.

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Same as Practice No. 5.

7. Pasture Renovation

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Seeding — 50 percent of the cost of the seed.

(b) \$.045 per pound of available phosphate.

(c) Lime rate according to practice No. 3.

8. Livestock Wells

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) 50 percent of the cost of the digging and casing but not in excess of \$300.



THE PICTURE OF CONSERVATION — This aerial view of a portion of Clermont township presents a graphic illustration of soil conservation in practice. Highway 18 is the road entering the picture at the bottom center, running to the top upper right hand corner. (North is to the top of the picture.) Contoured land at the bottom center is the Jerry Spencer farm, the buildings lying along the west side of highway 18, just

above the contoured land. Contoured area in the center of the picture includes the Harvey Meyer farm, lower right hand square of the area, the Larrabee Estate farm large central area and the Bob Hangartner farm top. Contoured fields make a beautiful pattern in contrast to the non-contoured areas adjoining them and, tell a revealing story of soil conservation.

9. Livestock Pond

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Earthmoving — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed 12 per cu. yd.

(b) Concrete — 60 percent of the cost.

(c) Pipe — 60 percent of the cost.

(d) Fence Construction — same as practice No. 5.

10. Sod Waterway

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Seeding — 65 per 1,000 sq. ft.

(b) Earthmoving — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed 10 per cu. yd. when over 1,500 per cu. yd.

(c) Earthmoving — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed

20 per linear foot when under 1,500 cu. yd.

(d) Tree Removal — 50 percent of the cost not to exceed \$7.50 per rod.

(e) Outlet Pipe — 50 percent of the cost of new pipe.

11. Seeding of Dams, Diversion Terraces and Borrow Pits

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) 55 per 100 sq. ft.

12. Standard Terraces

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) 70 percent of the cost not to exceed 450 per 100 L. ft.

(b) 70 percent of the cost not to exceed 630 per 100 L. ft. with seeded backslope.

(c) 50 percent of the cost of tree removal.

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Earthmoving — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed 60 per cu. yd.

(b) 50 percent of the cost of tree removal.

14. Erosion Control Structure

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Earthmoving — 60 percent of the cost not to exceed 14 per cu. yd.

(b) Concrete — 60 percent of the cost.

(c) Pipe — 60 percent of the cost.

(d) Tree Removal — 50 percent of the cost not to exceed \$7.50 per rod.

15. Open Drainage Ditch

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Earthmoving — 50 per-

cent of the cost not to exceed 10 per cu. yd.

(b) Outlet Pipe — 50 percent of the cost of new pipe.

16. Tile Drainage

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) 4" — 7.00 per 100 L. ft.

(b) 5" — 9.10 per 100 L. ft.

(c) 6" — 12.10 per 100 L. ft.

(d) 8" — 15.20 per 100 L. ft.

(e) Concrete — 50 percent of the cost.

17. Wildlife Food Plot

FEDERAL COST SHARES:

(a) Seeding — 50 percent of the average cost of seed.

(b) Tree Planting — 50 per-

(Continued to page 4)

Glaciers Caused Differences In Soil Management Problems

by R. M. Westerfield

Fayette county farmers who reside south and west of West Union are confronted with entirely different problems of soil management than are those who live east and north of town.

Out on the relatively flat lands of Windsor, Bethel, Banks and Center townships a farmer is apt to be confronted with fields which do not drain properly in a wet spring, soil which tends to hold the moisture to the detriment of his crops.

If he is to till most of his land, he very likely has had to do some tilling, or even, in extreme cases, dig some drainage ditches to insure that the heavy, clay-type soil will be usable.

North and east of West Union tilling is unheard of. The problem here is apt to be too much run-off rather than too little. Farmers are concerned with such things as contour farming, strip cropping and even terraces to hold the relatively light, but extremely fertile soil on their fields.

Did you ever wonder just why this is so? Did you ever wonder why the Turkey river, north of town has cut a deep and broad valley for itself while the Volga river at least in the Maynard and twin bridges area, flows practically on a level with its surrounding plains?

The difference, geologists tell us, results from the relative "age" of the land involved.

This is not to suggest that Center township is any younger than Dover township, but rather refers to the years since each was covered by the glaciers which in long past eras invaded most of Iowa.

Easternmost edge of the most recent glacier to plow its way across this country, named the Iowa Glacier by geologists, fell on a line running more or less diagonally across the county from the southeastern corner, near Arlington, to the northwest corner of the county about St. Lucas.

More accurately the line enters Fayette county in section 28 of Fairfield township, almost straight east of Arlington, progresses west north west just the northern border of that community, directly through the Corn Hill area is a point at the southeastern edge of Fayette.

It then makes a big swing, almost completely encircling the town of Fayette, and then takes off almost straight north towards West Union.

Between Fayette and West Union the line dodges both east and west of the highway, its

most easterly point coming in section 33 of Union township along the route of No. 56, from which point it follows that highway to a point about a mile south of town, then swings around the southwestern corner of West Union.

From here it runs more westerly than northerly, crossing Crane creek in section 30 and the Turkey river in section 23 of Eden township, swinging back to the east to form the plateau lands of Auburn township before leaving the county just north of St. Lucas.

The edge of this glacier, being thinner and lighter, had less effect on the existing terrain than did the center of the glacier.

If you visualize a youngster pushing a flat-bottomed boat through a sand bar, you can imagine the effect this huge mass of ice, slowly pushing to the south, had on Fayette county. At the edges of the glacier, long ridges of soil were formed into low lying hills, more or less parallel to the glacier, much as the sand would pile up alongside the course of the sandbar boat.

These sinuous hills referred to by geologists as moraine-tills, thus mark the edge of this last of the glaciers. They are the most conspicuous feature of the otherwise flat land occupied by the glacier.

Examples of these moraine-like hills can be seen in the southeast corner of West Union on the Big Gap, Henry Mills and Lawrence Bockmeyer farms, and extending from that point northwest between the Jerry Alcorn farm and the Everett Scott residence along No. 18 on the west edge of town.

Another interesting topographical feature which is the glacier affected is the ridge of hills running almost parallel with No. 18 west of West Union.

They approach No. 18 from the south at the Alver Anderson farm, run parallel with it for a period of miles and then cross the highway just this side of the Beas farm (on which that interesting old stone house stands), about six miles west of West Union.

One of these hills, which happens to stand on a 40 acre tract owned by the author of this piece, is said to be the highest point in Fayette county, some 1,260 feet above sea level.

Fergie Sturch of the County Engineer's office, had heard that this was true and soon, just to satisfy his own curiosity, tagged his transit to the top of the hill and discovered it to be within a few feet as high as the hill on the West Union water

tower, which can be clearly seen from that prominence.

(Lowest point in the county is where the Turkey river flows into Clayton county, and measures, just 732 feet above sea level. This the maximum range from highest to lowest point is 528 feet.)

The line of hills running along the 18 west of town, are thought to be the remnants of even higher hills which for some reason or other escaped complete destruction when the Iowa glacier plowed its way down across the plains. They stand roughly a mile from, and parallel to, the eastern edge of the Iowa glacier.

All that portion of the county lying to the east and north belongs to the Kansas drift plain, land plowed off by the Kansas glacier, a much earlier invader to Iowa.

Underlying the rich top soil of that township, which geologists tell us is of wind-blown loess, is a thin layer of drift material transported to this county by the glacier.

Unlike the southwest townships, which are often bordered stream with borders separated by the Iowa glacier, fields in the northeastern townships are relatively free of these troublesome stones.

But here in the northeast, erosion has had more time to take its toll and whereas farmers in Center and Harton townships are plagued with the problem of speeding the flow of water from their land, their neighbors in Ilwaco, Pleasant Valley, Clermont and Dover townships are plagued with a problem of slowing its flow.

This variety of soils and soil problems, lends an interest to soil management here in Fayette county which has fascinated the men who have been employed in the soil service.

One farmer may bring in a listing application, the very next man a request for financial

assistance in constructing terraces, and the two may very well be living within a mile of each other.

Thus did the Iowa glacier, a visitor to Fayette county over 25,000 years ago, affect soil management here today.

CONSERVING THE SOIL

There is an old myth which tells of an evil being who drew all of his strength from the ground. When an adversary learned this he was able to engage the evil being, and by

holding him off the ground, the evil one died.

A visualization without practices of conservation may be likened to an evil being who requires his strength from the soil, but is way up in the air. It is said that the tillable soil of the earth would not be over one-fourth inch in depth if spread over the entire surface of the earth.

Anything this important should be conserved if present and future generations are to be fed, clothed, and housed.

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Two New Zinnias On 1963 List

Two Zinnias, one a dwarf and the other a giant, are All-America selections for 1963.

Thumbelina, a tiny, compact zinnia with many colors represented in the double, five-inch blossoms on six-inch plants. It is a gold medal award winner. It should make an attractive border for beds, walks or driveways, reportedly being in bloom when less than three inches tall. It is entirely suitable for window and porch boxes, rockeries, wall gardens and pots.

Firecracker zinnia, a hybrid with scarlet, six-inch flowers on 36-inch bushy plants. A silver medalist. The petals are quilled and light. All-America boasts it as an exhibition flower, excellent for cut flower arrangements, for resistance to mildew, zinnia problem in some areas.

Disease Check Pays Farmers In Future Profits

American Livestock production is entering a new phase which may have far-reaching effects on farmers' profits in the future, according to a report

from the American Foundation for Animal Health.

The idea being tried by more and more farmers is a program of disease prevention, rather than the old concept of waiting for disease to strike a herd and then trying to check it.

The difference in the nation's livestock profits could run into the millions, the foundation says.

Examples cited include such diseases as brucellosis and swine erysipelas, where vaccination in advance can prevent devastating outbreaks.

Many farmers are even going a step further with their disease prevention programs, and now have standing arrangements with a veterinarian to check their livestock at intervals, to make sure animals are kept in good condition. These measures can pay big dividends in better profit per animal, and in heading off diseases before they can get started, says the foundation.

More than three-fourths of the world's food is now produced by hand tools or animal-drawn implements.

Fayette County Soil Conservation District

Annual Report - 1962

DISTRICT GOVERNING BODY

Alfred Stewart, Delwin Hilder, Gilbertson, Elgin, Carl Lueder, Fayette, Melvin Wagoner, Fayette, Ervin J. Burack, Arlington, Albert Bodenheimer, West Union, E. W. Maurer, Fayette. Others usually attending meetings are Leland A. McCard, Work Unit Conservationist, and Lois L. Heak, Clerk.

The commissioners hold twelve regular meetings each year and special meetings when necessary. All interested parties are invited to attend these meetings.

The district commissioners are responsible for the administration of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District. Each meeting involves approval of requests for assistance from farmers and the approval of basic farm plans developed and revised.

Lois L. Heak, District Clerk (part time)
Leland A. McCard, Work Unit Conservationist
Edward K. Boyle, Soil Conservation Technician
J. L. Cline, Conservation Aid (part time)

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1962 1962 No. To Total
No. Acres To Acres
New Cooperators Approved 26 5308 715 12667
Basic Plans Approved 30 5642 430 77253
Soil Conservation Surveys 389

FAYETTE COUNTY

District cooperators and basic farm plans by townships December 31, 1962

EDEN	AUBURN	DOVER	CLERMONT
Dist. Coop. 18	Dist. Coop. 40	Dist. Coop. 44	Dist. Coop. 72
Basic plans 3	Basic plans 22	Basic plans 18	Basic plans 42
BETHEL	WINDSOR	UNION	PL. VALLEY
Dist. Coop. 30	Dist. Coop. 44	Dist. Coop. 41	Dist. Coop. 51
Basic plans 18	Basic plans 25	Basic plans 15	Basic plans 21
BANKS	CENTER	WESTFIELD	ILWACO
Dist. Coop. 23	Dist. Coop. 28	Dist. Coop. 31	Dist. Coop. 33
Basic plans 19	Basic plans 18	Basic plans 21	Basic plans 24
FREMONT	HARLAN	SMITHFIELD	FAIRFIELD
Dist. Coop. 41	Dist. Coop. 43	Dist. Coop. 37	Dist. Coop. 46
Basic plans 35	Basic plans 25	Basic plans 15	Basic plans 29
GRAN	JEFFERSON	SCOTTS	PITMAN
Dist. Coop. 11	Dist. Coop. 33	Dist. Coop. 27	Dist. Coop. 32
Basic plans 2	Basic plans 22	Basic plans 18	Basic plans 43

MAJOR PRACTICES APPLIED

Practice	Unit	Dist. Coop.	Other Farms	Total 1962
Cons. cropping systems	ac.	650	0	650
Contour farming	ac.	1,684	222	1,906
Crop residue use	ac.	178	0	178
Stripcropping	ac.	119	0	119
Pasture hayland renovation	ac.	26	0	26
Pasture planting	ac.	55	0	55
Pasture proper use	ac.	6	0	6
Woodland harvest cutting	ac.	45	0	45
Livestock exclusion	ac.	45	0	45
Fish pond stocking	na.	5	2	7
Wildlife habitat preservation	ac.	43	0	43
Wildlife wetland preservation	ac.	1	0	1
Diversification	ft.	145	0	145
Grass waterways	ac.	63	25	88
Farm Pond	na.	0	1	1
Pipeline for livestock water	ft.	220	0	220
The drain	ft.	486,398	585,921	1,072,319
Terracing	ft.	5,800	0	5,800

DISTRICT OPERATION

The district operation is based on the premise that conservation of the country's soil and water resources, for sustained productive use, is an undertaking of vital concern to citizens in all walks of life. Therefore effort is made to encourage and help everyone - individuals and groups, town and country, private and public - to make contributions to the conservation objectives in a truly American way. Various activities are directed toward marshalling the interest and efforts of all the people.

Respectfully submitted,
DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
Alfred Stewart, Chairman
Hilder Gilbertson
Carl Lueder

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JAMES HENDERSON FARM NEAR CLERMONT is pictured here. Mr. Henderson practices soil conservation through the use of strip cropping, a portion of which is visible in this picture.

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Contests, Tour Feature Fayette Soil District Year

The district entered the Register and Tribune Soil Conservation Achievement Awards contest and Alvin Ruroden and Michael Finnegan, both of Clermont township, were selected as winners. Mr. Ruroden was chosen as the winner in the "family operated farm" group in which the owner-operator has accomplished the most complete conservation farming program, and Mr. Finnegan was the winner for new cooperators, having become a soil conservation district cooperator in 1960 or later. These awards were presented at the Oelwein Junior Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet on Jan. 15.

A tour of conservation practices in Fayette county was held September 27. Assisting in planning and conducting the tour were the Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Charles Ballantyne, Extension Soil Conservationist from Iowa State University, took part in the tour and the explanations of the effects of erosion control practices which are in use in this area. The group visited the Ruby Antes farm, west of West Union, where they observed a concrete structure serving two purposes, first to stop a gully at the lower end of a waterway and second to provide a cattleway to the field from a cattle crossing under the county road.

They also saw a pond for livestock water and recreation on the Wesley Talcott farm in Westfield township, the drainage projects on the farms of Louis Hutter, in Center Township, and Julius Winter in Beloit township.

They observed a set of standard terraces just completed on a field on the Richard Stuhlenrauch farm in Banks Township, grassed waterways on the Adolph Niewehner farm in Beloit Township and a 14 inch tile outlet on the L. N. Berman farm in Center Township which serves as a community drainage system which drains the land of Berman, Clair Claxton, Harry Arthur, Harold Heltman and the Myron Cokerburn farm. This tile outlet and main were installed several years ago as a group enterprise under the supervision of the Soil Conservation Service.

Miss Carol Buckow, Hawkeye and Margaret Schlumbohm, Oelwein, attended Springbrook Teachers Conservation camp at Springbrook State park under the sponsorship of the Fayette County Soil Conservation district. Miss Suckow is a student at Wartburg college and Mrs. Schlumbohm is a teacher at Hazelton in the Oelwein Community School district.

Earl Rothlisberger, Elgin, was nominated as the district's entry in the National Soil Conservation Districts Awards Program, sponsored by the Good Year Tire and Rubber company. The district "Queen of Conservation" contest sponsored jointly by the Fayette County Soil Conservation district and the Iowa Grain Dealers association was held at Clermont on Aug. 12, 1962, in conjunction with the annual Dairy Days celebration.

Dixie Ruroden, Postville, and Susan Tatro, Clermont, were selected from a group of ten contestants to represent the district at the regional contest which was held at the Fayette County Fair on Aug. 24.

Miss Dianne Kay DeBerg, Britow, in Butler county, was chosen at the regional contest to be a candidate for state "Queen of Conservation."

Larry Pleggenkuhle, son of Ross Pleggenkuhle, Hawkeye, represented the district at the regional speech contest at New Hampton, having been the winner of the district contest held earlier at West Union.

The speech contest is sponsored each year by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

Larry placed second in the regional contest. The contestants all spoke on the subject, "How Soil and Water Conservation Affects My Future."

Soil Stewardship Week was observed May 27 to June 3 throughout the district and materials were sent to all ministers in the county. Some churches had special observances of the occasion.

Commissioner Alfred Stewart

attended the 17th Annual Short Course for Soil Conservation District Commissioners at Ames Jan. 24 and 25.

The district commissioners attended the regional meeting at New Hampton on March 22.

Family Living Lesson For February Set

"Food Becomes You" was the theme for the February County Extension Family Living program presented Monday, Feb. 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the

county extension office at Fayetteville. Basic nutrition, meal planning and weight control were discussed, according to Miss Donna Leubke, County Extension assistant. Leader training given for the homemakers' clubs have the lesson presented at their club meetings.

PUBLIC NOTICE

EXECUTIVE'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all persons that the last day of February A.D. 1963,

Use Union Ads

the undersigned was appointed by the Board of Fayette County, Iowa, to be the County Auditor, and the Board of Fayette County, Iowa, has authorized the undersigned to accept the office and to exercise the powers and duties thereof. The undersigned is hereby authorized to accept the office and to exercise the powers and duties thereof. The undersigned is hereby authorized to accept the office and to exercise the powers and duties thereof.

DELLA HATCH
County Auditor
Fayette County, Iowa
Published by The Fayette County Union on Feb. 7, 14 and 21, 1963.



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WEST UNION, IOWA



GRASSED WATERWAY on the Edwin Decker farm near Westgate is pictured here. Howard Boyle, Conservation Aid, is standing in the waterway.

"One Step At A Time" Way To Conserve Soil

Nearly two million farmers have switched to conservation farming during the past 25 years, but few of them did it all at once. Instead, they make the change in easy steps — usually one at a time. It's easier that way, and a lot better all around.

An eight-page booklet, just released by USDA's Soil Conservation Service, explains how farmers can put soil and water conservation to work on their farm with a minimum of fuss and bother.

The booklet, illustrated with drawings, tells the farmer exactly who to contact and how to start conserving his soil and water. Then it lists the second, third and fourth, and finally eight steps in all that lead to a complete conservation plan for the farm. The booklet points out that conservation farming may seem like a complicated business, and that it may involve some changes with which the farmer may not be familiar, but that the changeover can be carried out in an easy and orderly manner, if taken one step at a time.

The booklet is PA-561, "Soil Conservation Is Easy If You Do It With A Plan — One Step At A Time." You can get a copy

Soil Survey Underway For Fayette County

by Howard K. Boyle
The land area of Iowa is nearly 36 million acres, 94 percent or 34 million acres of which is in farms. Approximately two million acres are in other uses such as housing lots, roads, parks, etc.

Iowa is well supplied with good soil. The vast wealth of Iowa is in its soil and climate. This is true because not only farmers make their living from soil, but many townspeople also depend, directly or indirectly, upon agriculture for their livelihood.

What is a soil? Soil is the surface material of the earth in which plants grow. Nature worked thousands of years to make the soil. How soil plants grow in a given area depends largely on what "ingredients" nature used when she made the soil found in that area.

Various types of soil conservation practices are applied by farmers at the recommendation

of Soil Conservation technicians. These technicians base their recommendations chiefly on the type of soil found in the area where conservation problem exists.

Before these recommendations can be made with much accuracy the soil must be analyzed as to type, steepness of slopes and degree of erosion which has taken place. This work is done by soil scientists, is recorded on an aerial photograph of the farm in question, and is called a soil survey.

The soil scientist is a man with a Bachelor of Science degree who specializes in soil study. Just recently several of these men have been working in Fayette county taking soil borings and gathering data with which to prepare a Standard Soil Survey of the entire county.

The Standard Soil Survey will list soil types according to a code acceptable nation-wide. Prior to 1962, soils typed have might have carried a name or number associated only with farms. Under the Standard survey, numbers or codes will be used which will allow various soils to be identified and associated with soils in all parts of our country.

It will take several years to complete the survey. Upon its completion, publication will be made available to the general public. However, it will be of more use to the Soil Conservation Service, since it will enable the Soil Conservation Service Technicians to make broader recommendations for conservation practices.



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1960 Buick 4 Dr. Sedan LeSabre, radio, automatic. 24,000 actual miles. Blue and White. \$1995.00

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1958 Chevrolet Bel Air 4 Dr. Sedan Blue and White. Straight Stick Six. Economy. \$1295.00

1962 Ford Fairlane 500 2 Dr. Sedan. 6 Cyl. Standard shift. 4,000 miles, as good as new. Roman Red. \$1995.00

1959 Chevrolet Brookwood Wagon. 4 Dr. 6 Cyl. Straight Stick. Haul 'em in a wagon. \$1195.00

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1957 Buick 4 Dr. H.T. Century. Automatic, radio, Power Steering. Sierra Gold. \$795.00

1957 Plymouth Savoy 4 Dr. Sedan V-8 Automatic, radio. Solid Beige. \$685.00

1956 Buick Special 2 Dr. Sedan. Automatic, radio. A real nice family car. \$595.00

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1956 Ford Fairlane 4 Dr. H.T. V-8 Automatic, radio, good tires. \$495.00

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ELGIN, IOWA

THE SIGN OF THE BIG OK



CONTOUR GUIDELINES — Billy Bennett (left) farmer, and Howard K. Boyle, Soil Conservation Service, (right) have just completed layout of several plowed furrows which will serve as guidelines for contour plowing and other tillage operations. The field pictured here is on land southwest of Elgin recently purchased by Billy and his father, Cleve Bennett.

NEEDS VS. PROGRESS Fayette County

Practice	Unit	Total Needs	On the Land June 30, 1962	Remaining Needs	Present Annual Rate (3 Yr. Av.)	Average Annual Rate to Complete in 25 yrs
Diversion	ft.	1,488,960	58,080	1,430,880	3,520	57,235
Drain, Mains and laterals	mi.	143.9	17.7	126.2	3	5.9
Ponds	no.	46	46	0	2.6	6.9
Fish pond stocking	no.	142	38	104	3.3	4.1
Grade Stab. structure	no.	233	8	225	1.0	10.5
Grassed waterways	ac.	4,535	1,184	3,351	15.4	134
Hedge-row planting	rd.	15,405	225	15,180	8.4	607
Pasture renovation	ac.	1,908	546	1,362	18.3	54.6
Pasture planting	ac.	3,545	450	3,125	16.6	125
Terraces	mi.	6,727	73	6,654	1.9	266
Tile drains	ft.	170,461,163	48,792,445	121,668,718	1,209,107	4,864,347

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BIG GAIN Economy Corner

These Pigs Were Started On
"BIG GAIN CREEP 25"



THEY WERE born Oct. 27th and, in about five days, began eating Creep 25. They presently weigh an average of 142 pounds! (Name of the owner will be provided on request)

THE COST of getting these pigs off to an early start was only 75 cents per pig. This can mean up to \$3.00 extra per pig at market.

ALTHOUGH these pigs don't get the attention and time that good management should provide, they will still earn a good profit, even at \$15.00 or \$16.00, when they go to market.

IF CONSUMPTION of feed progresses as normal, these pigs will go to market at a very low cost per hundred-weight.

IT PAYS to start those little pigs right to avoid problems later, when high feed consumption rates makes it much more costly to straighten them out. Keep that baby fat on 'em for good profits later.

DON'T FORGET the bonus for Creep 25 and Pig Starter!

An aluminum scoop, an electric clock or a tractor Thermo with the purchase of one ton of either or one ton of a combination of the two.

West Union Chamber of Commerce
DOLLAR DAY DRAWING

Name _____
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Deposit this coupon in this store before 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16, to be eligible for \$250 worth of Savings bonds. You do not have to be present to win. Winners will be posted in this store Monday, Feb. 16.

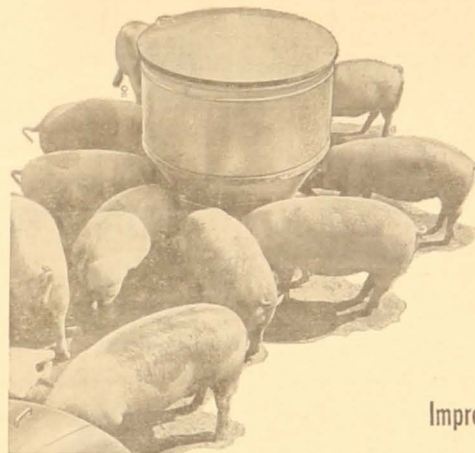


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FAYETTE COUNTY DISTRICT WORK UNIT STAFF is pictured here. Seated are Leland A. McCord, Work Unit Conservationist and Lois Heick, district clerk. Standing are, left, Howard Boyle, Conservation Aid and J. Leslie Cline, WAE aid.

Work Begun On "Conservation Survey"

The annual report, included elsewhere in this issue, shows nothing accomplished in 1962 under the "Soil Conservation Survey" heading. The reason for this becomes obvious as you read the next paragraph.

Work was started last April on a Standard Soil Survey for all the agricultural land in Fayette County. At present 25,875 acres of a total 447,798 acres of agricultural land have been typed under this new program. This consumed all time allotted the Fayette District by K. K. Kittleton, Soil Scientist, pictured elsewhere in this paper, and his aids.

The term "Standard Soil Survey" is almost self-explanatory. It means that each acre of land is soil typed according to a nation-wide standard. This information together with information regarding degree of slope and amount of erosion for each acre is recorded on aerial photos of farms in the county. These facts, when completely assembled, form a Standard Soil Survey and can be very useful in long range conservation planning.

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Elgin,
Iowa

Rate of Erosion Shocks Local Tile Contractor

by Leland A. McCord
Soil Conservation Service

Who would use a 1920 tractor in this day and age? Yet many farmers are using the same methods in farming that were in use in 1920 with no thought of soil loss or the fact they are paying the cost of additional lime and fertilizer.

New Jersey has been farmed for over 200 years. There is very little topsoil remaining. The average yield of corn is comparable to Iowa, but they have to apply at least 800 lbs. of fertilizer per acre each year to get that yield. All oats must be fertilized heavily and new seedlings are made in August because the new seedlings cannot stand the completion of the oats. Once the farmer gets a stand of alfalfa he is reluctant to plow it up because of the cost of establishing. They have to use a constant spray schedule to control insects. Because of the cost there is a trend from corn to forage production.

Leonard Melghan, a tile contractor, was in the office this winter and told me he started to put laterals on tile last year that he had previously laid for this farmer five years before. He dug down three feet to find the old tile and could not locate it. It had to be there so he kept on digging and at four feet found the tile. In five years there had been a deposit of one foot of soil from the slopes above. This is what is known as sheet erosion, so little each year, the farmer does not realize what has taken place. This was on land classed as gently rolling, about three to five percent.

Our fathers did not know how to control soil loss in the 20's, but we now have the information through the Soil Conservation Service and help in the form of payments through the Fayette County ASC Office.

District Annual Soil Conservation Meeting Feb. 12

The annual meeting of the Fayette County Soil Conservation district was held on Feb. 12, 1962 in the Farm Bureau Meeting Room at Fayette.

Charles R. Ballantyne, Extension Soil Conservationist from Iowa State University, was the featured speaker. He gave an interesting talk on the subject, "A New Definition For Conservation." The Fayette County District Commissioners' annual report was reviewed and Chairman Stewart reported on the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts convention which he had recently attended at Philadelphia.

Mr. Stewart was re-elected to a six year term as District Commissioner at the regular election held in conjunction with the annual meeting and dinner.

Awards were presented to John Erickson, Wadena, and Michael Wiley, West Union, for outstanding soil conservation achievements in their farming operations.

Dinner was served at noon by the wives of the commissioners.

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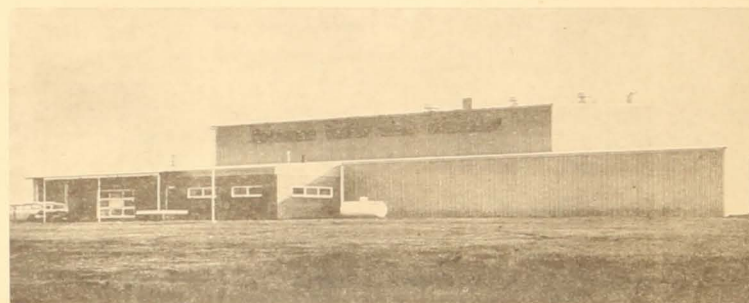
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